

Egypt to demand war reparations from Iraq

CAIRO (R) — Egypt said on Monday it would ask Iraq to pay reparations for revenue lost as a result of its invasion of Kuwait. Information Minister Saad Sharif said after a cabinet session the request, based on U.N. resolutions calling on Baghdad to pay compensation for the invasion, would be sent to the Security Council. Iraq has accepted all 13 U.N. resolutions on the Gulf crisis since allied forces, including Egyptian troops, drove its army from Kuwait last week. The minister, quoted by the Egyptian News Agency MENA, said the invasion had cost Egypt — revenue from tourism and its national airline. Egyptians working in Iraq had also not been paid. Egypt, the most populous Arab state, had some two million citizens working in Iraq and 150,000 in Kuwait at the time of the Aug. 2 invasion of the emirate. It has said the war cost it billions of dollars.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation جورдан تايمز بعيادة سياسية تصدر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية العربية، الراي

Volume 16 Number 4643

AMMAN TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 1991, SHA'BAN 18, 1411

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Iraq releases 10 PoWs, allies to reciprocate today

Combined agency dispatches

THE FIRST concrete signals of a Gulf peace were ushered Monday when Iraq released 10 allied prisoners of war and the U.S. said it would release 300 PoWs Tuesday.

The 10 allied PoWs drove to freedom in Jordan on Monday and the U.S. ambassador reported they had been well treated in Iraq.

A senior Jordanian government official said the PoWs, including American woman soldier Melissa Anne Rathbun-Nealy, 20, flew from the border by helicopter to Amman airport en route to Bahrain.

They would go home after being debrifed in Bahrain, he said, adding that plans to take them to an army hospital for checks were apparently dropped because they appeared to be in good shape.

Witnesses said the 10 looked healthy although one, an American, had his right arm in a sling. "He had fractured his arm

while ejecting from his plane," the U.S. Ambassador to Jordan, Roger Harrison, told reporters.

"They said the treatment was good and improved in the last few weeks. They did not talk about physical abuse."

The PoWs were freed within 24 hours of Iraqi generals accepting allies terms for a ceasefire in the six-week Gulf war. The PoWs travelled for seven hours in an

ICRC convoy from Baghdad. They were handed to Werner Kaspar, chief delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Jordan, at Trebeel on the Jordanian-Iraqi border.

Kaspar handed the PoWs over to diplomats at the nearby Ruweisah air base, 280 kilometres east of Amman. They refused to talk to reporters at the

base.

The 10 arrived wearing bright yellow overalls with the letters P.W. on front and back. They changed into grey-fleeced sweatshirts before boarding two helicopters.

Rathbun-Nealy had her blonde hair tied in a pony tail. Some PoWs hid their faces from cameras.

According to the ICRC, the 10 included six Americans, three Britons and one Italian.

Allied forces have said they will release 300 Iraqi PoWs on Tuesday in response to the Iraqi gesture.

Andreas Wigger, the chief Red Cross delegate in Baghdad, said, the first batch of allied prisoners of war was only made as a goodwill gesture by the Iraqis and they have to work out plans for repatriation of the rest of them.

The allies have said at least 13 allied prisoners, all men and including nine Americans, two Britons, an Italian and a Kuwaiti, are agreeing to pay war damages.

(Continued on page 5)

Terms of military agreement

SAFWAN, Iraq (AP) — Here are key terms worked out Sunday between allied and Iraqi military commanders for a permanent end to fighting in the Gulf war:

— Release of prisoners, including both military and civilian captives of all nationalities, to be worked out with the International Red Cross and with an immediate "symbolic release."

— Identification by Iraq of the location of all mines and booby traps in Kuwait and in the Gulf.

Some information was turned over at the meeting.

— Procedures for keeping Iraqi and allied forces separate in occupied Iraq to avoid further clashes.

— Allied withdrawal of all troops from Iraq when, but not before, a permanent ceasefire is agreed upon and Iraq complies with all pertinent U.N. resolutions, including rescinding its annexation of Kuwait and agreeing to pay war damages.

(Continued on page 5)

Fierce fighting reported in southern Iraq

Combined agency dispatches

FIERCE fighting reported Monday in the southern Iraqi city of Basra between units of the Republican Guard and opponents of President Saddam Hussein, including soldiers arriving from Kuwait, while the second-highest official on Iraq's ruling Revolutionary Command Council called on a group of local and military officials to remain loyal to President Hussein.

Izzat Ibrahim, RCC deputy chairman, asked the officials to rise to the "major challenges" facing the Iraqi regime.

Radio Baghdad, monitored in Nicosia, reported Ibrahim as saying: "Comrades, you must raise your awareness and determination to the level that corresponds to the requirements of the phase of major challenges in-

'U.S. troops landed on highway'

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq protested to the United Nations Monday that helicopter-borne U.S. troops landed on the main highway to Jordan at the weekend, 160 kilometres from Baghdad.

Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz made the complaint in a letter to the U.N. Security Council reported by Baghdad Radio.

He said six helicopters were involved in the landing on Saturday but he gave no other details. He did not say what the troops did or how long they stayed.

Aziz also protested that U.S. jets broke the sound barrier over Baghdad and other cities on Monday, "terrorising" the public with the noise.

"These actions contradict the agreement in Safwan and constitute sheer unjustified provocation," he said, asking the Security Council to put a stop to it.

shakeable, and to keep its women dignified."

The radio did not say to what specific challenges Ibrahim referred.

But reports from the southern

port city Basra and other southern towns indicated growing civil unrest and demonstrations against Saddam. Witnesses on Monday in Safwan said Iraq's Republican Guard had launched a fierce crackdown on a rebellion.

Explosions were heard on Monday in Basra and refugees were reported fleeing across the border to Iran.

The radio said Ibrahim's remarks were made at a meeting attended by governors of Wasit and Maysan, the secretaries of regional Baath Party branches, the commander of the 1st army corps and officials in charge of internal security in the two provinces.

He said: "Fairness, honour and manliness require us as Iraqis to express our loyalty to, and deep belief in this great glory and prosperity."

(Continued on page 5)

Syria, Egypt, GCC talk in Damascus today

GCC calls for elimination of mass destruction weapons

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (Agencies) — Foreign ministers of the Saudi Arabian-led Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) called Monday for elimination of weapons of mass destruction from the Middle East.

Outlining their post-war policy, the ministers of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and the United Arab Emirates said it was necessary to eliminate nuclear, chemical and biological arms.

The ministers said in a communiqué at the end of a two-day meeting that they, along with Syria and Egypt, are developing the "nucleus" of a new Arab post-war framework for political, economic and security arrangements.

Kuwaiti officials have esti-

mated that 35,000 Kuwaitis are missing and have also estimated it would take them five years and \$200 billion to offset the damage of the occupation period.

The communiqué condemned the Iraqi regime for the "killing, torture and oppression" of the inhabitants of Kuwait under occupation as well as "premeditated burning and looting of its oil wells and oil establishments, destruction of the facets of its human and environmental life, and the plundering of public and private property."

The council called for continuation of trade sanctions on Iraq until it annulled its annexation of Kuwait and until the issues of

Kuwaiti officials have esti-

ated that 35,000 Kuwaitis are missing and have also estimated it would take them five years and \$200 billion to offset the damage of the occupation period.

The council affirms its complete keenness about the unity and regional safety of Iraqi territory and its support for the Iraqi people in their moment of trial brought about by the Iraqi regime," said the communiqué.

The ministers called for implementation of the U.N. Security Council resolutions related to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and the release of all civilian detainees captured in Kuwait by the Iraqi occupation forces.

Kuwaiti officials have esti-

(Continued on page 5)

Arafat fears for Palestinians in Kuwait; Saudis support cause

LONDON (R) — PLO leader Yasser Arafat has said he fears Palestinians may be massacred in Kuwait as they were in Lebanon's Sabra and Shatila refugee camps in 1982.

"Another Sabra-Shatila awaits the Palestinians in Kuwait... I place the entire responsibility for their fate on the West and the U.S. administration," said Arafat in an interview published on Monday in Britain's *Guardian* newspaper.

Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, was sympathetic towards Iraq during the conflict. Kuwaitis accuse some Palestinians of collaborating with Iraqi occupying forces in

Kuwait, and a wave of reprisals is feared.

Several hundred Palestinians in Beirut's Sabra and Shatila camps were killed by Israeli-backed Lebanese Christian militiamen in 1982 after Israel occupied parts of Beirut.

Arafat told the *Guardian* the Gulf war would be seen as "a stain on the history of the West."

"The Americans had taken a decision even before the Gulf crisis and that decision was to restore and avoid a witch-hunt of suspected collaborators," a spokesman said.

Saudi Arabia, meanwhile, has said it would continue to support the Palestinian cause, but de-

(Continued on page 5)

PLO cannot be ignored - Izzeddin

AMMAN (AFP) — Those who intend to settle the Palestine issue can by no means ignore the role of the Palestine Liberation Organisation Minister of Information Izzeddin Izzeddin said Monday.

"It is impossible to imagine a scenario without the PLO," the representative of the Palestinian people who live in and outside the Israeli-occupied Arab territories," Izzeddin said in a statement to the press Monday.

In reply to a question about Jordan's future role, Izzeddin said: "Jordan's role cannot be overlooked for geographic, demographic and historic considerations, and because Jordan is now considered as the only democratic nation in the Arab region."

White House chief of staff John Sununu had said Sunday that Jordan's stand during the Gulf crisis was disappointing, but Izzeddin noted that Jordan was "a very important player in Arab World affairs."

With regard to the Palestine issue, the minister said that things have to be placed in their proper perspective. "Anyone who showed concern over the Palestine issue over the recent years, must have realised that he cannot ignore the PLO because such a move would serve as a wrong beginning or a new Camp David which will be opposed by the Palestinians," the minister said.

"Those trying to settle the Palestine issue, have to begin first by responding to the desires of the Palestinians and we have all reasons to believe that the PLO still represents the Palestinian people everywhere," the minister noted.

"More and above we have two Security Council resolutions, 242 and 338, which clearly provide for Israeli withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied since 1967," the minister added.

He said: "Over the past few months, we have witnessed a process by which UN resolutions can be implemented, and now we expect the five permanent nations at the Security Council, not only the United States, to show us how they would implement these two resolutions."

(Continued on page 5)

UNRWA protests Israeli

2nd assault on staffer

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — The U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) complained Monday that Israeli soldiers had abused an international staffer in the second incident in less than two weeks.

Sandro Tucci, spokesman for UNRWA, which aids Palestinian refugees, said Israeli soldiers on Sunday insulted and assaulted an UNRWA staffer on assignment in the Nur Shams refugee camp in the occupied West Bank.

A soldier approached the window of his car and said "get out of this camp or I'll break your car," Tucci said.

He said the UNRWA staffer demanded to know if the army had declared the camp a "closed military zone," which would prohibit outsiders from entering. Another soldier approached the

car and punched the staffer in the face, splitting his lip and knocking out a tooth, Tucci said. The staffer's name and nationality were not released.

On Feb. 22 an international staffer of UNRWA was grabbed and kicked in the groin by a soldier in the West Bank's Kalanis refugee camp.

Tucci said formal complaints would be filed in Vienna and in Israel.

"We cannot tolerate this," Tucci said. "U.N. personnel with diplomatic immunity working in the camps by Israeli agreement and should be respected."

The army spokesman's office said it had no reports of the latest incident but was checking.

(Continued on page 5)

car and punched the staffer in the face, splitting his lip and knocking out a tooth, Tucci said. The staffer's name and nationality were not released.

On Feb. 22 an international staffer of UNRWA was grabbed and kicked in the groin by a soldier in the West Bank's Kalanis refugee camp.

Tucci said formal complaints would be filed in Vienna and in Israel.

"We cannot tolerate this," Tucci said. "U.N. personnel with diplomatic immunity working in the camps by Israeli agreement and should be respected."

The army spokesman's office said it had no reports of the latest incident but was checking.

(Continued on page 5)

car and punched the staffer in the face, splitting his lip and knocking out a tooth, Tucci said. The staffer's name and nationality were not released.

On Feb. 22 an international staffer of UNRWA was grabbed and kicked in the groin by a soldier in the West Bank's Kalanis refugee camp.

Tucci said formal complaints would be filed in Vienna and in Israel.

"We cannot tolerate this," Tucci said. "U.N. personnel with diplomatic immunity working in the camps by Israeli agreement and should be respected."

The army spokesman's office said it had no reports of the latest incident but was checking.

(Continued on page 5)

car and punched the staffer in the face, splitting his lip and knocking out a tooth, Tucci said. The staffer's name and nationality were not released.

On Feb. 22 an international staffer of UNRWA was grabbed and kicked in the groin by a soldier in the West Bank's Kalanis refugee camp.

Tucci said formal complaints would be filed in Vienna and in Israel.

"We cannot tolerate this," Tucci said. "U.N. personnel with diplomatic immunity working in the camps by Israeli agreement and should be respected."

The army spokesman's office said it had no reports of the latest incident but was checking.

(Continued on page 5)

car and punched the staffer in the face, splitting his lip and knocking out a tooth, Tucci said. The staffer's name and nationality were not released.

On Feb. 22 an international staffer of UNRWA was grabbed and kicked in the groin by a soldier in the West Bank's Kalanis refugee camp.

Tucci said formal complaints would be filed in Vienna and in Israel.

"We cannot tolerate this," Tucci said. "U.N. personnel with diplomatic immunity working in the camps by Israeli agreement and should be respected."

The army spokesman's office said it had no reports of the latest incident but was checking.

(Continued on page 5)

car and punched the staffer in the face, splitting his lip and knocking out a tooth, Tucci said. The staffer's name and nationality were not released.

On Feb. 22 an international staffer of UNRWA was grabbed and kicked in the groin by a soldier in the West Bank's Kalanis refugee camp.

Tucci said formal complaints would be filed in Vienna and in Israel.

"We cannot tolerate this," Tucci said. "U.N. personnel with diplomatic immunity working in the camps by Israeli agreement and should be respected."

The army spokesman's office said it had no reports of the latest incident but was checking.

(Continued on page 5)

Soviets bidding to help lead post-war search for peace

By Michael Putzel
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Soviet Union, promised a post-war role in Middle East diplomacy, is moving quickly to stake its claim before being left behind by the countries in the coalition against Iraq.

Hours after U.S. President George Bush ordered a ceasefire in the Gulf war, Soviet Foreign Minister Alexander A. Bessmertnykh announced his government's intention to begin exploring a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The stated it "the main source of instability, lack of trust and the continuing arms race in the region."

President Bush said Friday that the Soviets "have some good ideas" about how to achieve peace in the troubled region and that he would value their contribution. But he stopped short of offering the Kremlin a full partnership.

One analyst suggested the United States may be less anxious now than at the start of the war to give the Soviets a key role in forging the peace.

John Hannah, a Soviet affairs expert at the Washington Institute Near East Policy, said the overwhelming military victory gave the United States a credibility in the Arab World it has never enjoyed.

The Soviets, he said, have traditionally sided with the Arabs

against the United States and Israel, and the United States was viewed with great suspicion as Israel's patron.

With a more sympathetic Soviet foreign policy under former Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, Washington wanted a to draw Moscow into the peace process because that would "make it easier for the Arabs to go along," Mr. Hannah said.

But he added that the Soviets' unsuccessful efforts to broker a ceasefire to head off the ground war raised old suspicions that the Kremlin was trying to undercut U.S. policy to preserve its own standing with the Arab states.

Those suspicions can still be relieved, Mr. Hannah said, "But you may not need them (the Soviets) as much anymore."

At the end of January, two weeks into the air war against Iraq, Secretary of State James Baker and Mr. Bessmertnykh stated a statement at the close of talks in Washington expressing confidence the two superpowers could "make a substantial contribution to the achievement of a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East."

When Mr. Baker was asked later if that statement did not represent a departure from long-time U.S. efforts to keep the Soviets at arm's length from the Middle East peace process, he

said: "The old policy was wrong, and we changed it."

"It is our intention to have the Soviets involved in the Middle East," he said.

Mr. Bush, at his first news conference after the shooting stopped, said the Soviets "will be important players" in the search for peace in the Middle East, but he indicated he may want to confine their role to within the United Nations or some other limited framework.

He made clear the United States plans to take the leadership position, working with its coalition partners, with the United Nations and with individual countries in the region.

As for the Soviets, the president said, "We'll try very hard to work with them because they have some good ideas."

He told reporters he "never resented" President Mikhail Gorbachev's attempt to play independent peacemaker, but added: "The trouble was it stopped well short of what we and the rest of the coalition could accept."

Nonetheless, Bush said he was pleased to have Soviet cooperation in the crisis rather than "what it would have been like a few years ago in the cold war when every American was absolutely convinced that the only thing the Soviets wanted (in the Middle East) was access to the warm water ports of the Gulf."

Mr. Baker was asked later if that statement did not represent a departure from long-time U.S. efforts to keep the Soviets at arm's length from the Middle East peace process, he

Saddam prays for martyrs of war

BAGHDAD (R) — President Saddam Hussein, visited a national war memorial Sunday to pray for Iraq's dead — his first public appearance since the Gulf war ended.

Baghdad Radio said the president visited the martyr's monument where he prayed "to invoke the mercy of God on the souls of our righteous martyrs."

Iraq claims victory in the Gulf war which came to a halt on Thursday with the victimization of its troops from Kuwait and Baghdad's acceptance of all United Nations resolutions on its Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait. No figure has been announced for the Iraqi dead.

A U.S. military spokesman in Riyadh said a total 38 U.S. personnel were listed as missing in action, of whom nine were known to have been taken prisoner.

President Saddam chaired a meeting of the ruling Revolutionary Command Council on Sunday to discuss "political developments."

Iraqi Television released film of a similing Saddam meeting with three aides to discuss restoring public services — his first televised appearance since early in the war.

Iraq announced Sunday it had accepted the latest U.N. Security Council resolution setting terms for a permanent ceasefire in the Gulf, including a release of all prisoners of war and detained Kuwaitis.

Western correspondents based outside Iraq have reported serious unrest by Muslim fundamentalists in the southern Iraqi city of Basra. Baghdad Radio made no mention of disturbances in Basra.

On Sunday night, Baghdad Radio started playing non-military songs for the first time since August. Love songs and folk music were replaced during the seven-month confrontation by military marches and patriotic songs, mainly praising President Saddam and Iraq's steadfastness.

Most Iraqis have not seen President Saddam since television went off the air about 10 days after the war started on Jan. 17.

Electricity was restored to parts of the Iraqi capital on Sunday night and officials said the film was expected to be shown on television later.

Chaos delays poll contested by Ozal's wife

ISTANBUL (R) — Fistfights and scuffles forced the postponement of a ruling Motherland Party poll contested by Turkish President Turgut Ozal's wife.

Newspapers said Semra Ozal, seeking to launch her own political career as party leader in Istanbul, swore to fight on after a party meeting dissolved into chaos in the early hours.

Semra Ozal, whose husband dismissed the defence minister for opposing her bid to become Motherland provincial chairman, is running against conservative candidate Taliat Yilmaz. The chairman of the congress, Motherland Deputy and State Minister Mustafa Tasar, told 661 delegates and nearly 2,000 party members he was postponing the poll to an unspecified date, the liberal daily *Miliyet* said.

Quarrels among unruly delegates had turned into fistfights and scuffles, *Miliyet* said. "The party was taken over by non-party members. There was no security," Semra Ozal told *Miliyet* as she left the building. "Of course I will fight on."

Mr. Ozal last month fired his own cousin, Defence Minister Husnu Dogan, for opposing Semra's candidacy.

Three other ministers known to share Mr. Dogan's views have remained in the government.

Miliyet quoted Mr. Tasar as saying later the congress was likely to reconvene on April 28.

Mr. Ozal should not only abandon this peace initiative, it should

Red Cross, allies see no major problems in Gulf PoW swap

RIYADH (R) — The exchange of at least 63,000 Iraqi Gulf war prisoners (PoWs) for a handful of allied soldiers and airmen should not present insurmountable difficulties if all sides cooperate, allied and Red Cross officials said Monday.

Allied and Iraqi generals

agreed at talks in southern Iraq on Sunday to an immediate release of prisoners taken during the six-week war.

A first group of 10 allied prisoners was handed over to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Baghdad on Monday for delivery to their countries' embassies in Jordan.

A U.S. military spokesman in

Riyadh said a total 38 U.S. personnel were listed as missing in action, of whom nine were known to have been taken prisoner.

Two Iraqi prisoners had died from malnutrition and dehydration, he said.

The allied side says some 40,000 Kuwaitis taken to Iraq during the Iraqi occupation of their country should also be treated as prisoners of war.

A U.S. military source said the total of Iraqi captured could be higher than 63,400 because allied forces were "still gathering people."

Iraqi prisoners are being held in camps in Saudi Arabia, built before the war to house up to 100,000 prisoners, he said.

They were being given clothes and medical care, allied officials said.

"Some were in desperate condition. They were dehydrated, they hadn't had food in a long time. They were poorly clothed and lacked shoes. Some were too weak to walk. Others were healthy," the U.S. source said.

He said some Iraqi prisoners said they did not wish to return to Iraq. He could not say if this was because they opposed Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, nor if they were allowed to stay in Saudi Arabia.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

He said Saudi and U.S. forces had been giving the ICRC "cap-

ital" information to help the exchange.

"All parties meet to discuss the details. The time factor would be part of that framework. It depends on what governments want," he said.

He said Saudi and U.S. forces had been giving the ICRC "cap-

ital" information to help the exchange.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated against their will.

Under the rules of war, ICRC officials say, prisoners should not be repatriated

Muslim Brotherhood solidifies resistance to peace with Israel

By Nermeen Murad

Jordan Times Staff Reporter
AMMAN — Jordan's Muslim Brotherhood Movement has reiterated its rejection of any peaceful solutions to the Arab-Israeli conflict which is based on the recognition of Israel and giving up parts of Palestine to the Jewish state.

"Islam bans us from giving any part of our Islamic lands away," Sheikh Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khalifa, the leader of the movement in Jordan told the Jordan Times in a telephone interview.

However, the spiritual leader hedged a question on whether the brotherhood would reject such a solution if it was actually arrived at.

"Let us see how they will solve the Palestinian problem first," Khalifa replied.

A statement published by the Brotherhood Movement in Jordan's Mouday said that "winds of surrender solutions after the Gulf war will be gripping the region and foremost among these solutions is the implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338."

"Those resolutions mean giving up 70 per cent of Palestinian lands and negotiating over the rest leading up to self rule in those areas," the statement said.

"The nation has to stand fast against such a plot and resist it with all its might," the statement stressed.

Khalifa said that the basic foundation adopted by the brotherhood is that "it is impossible to give up any part of Palestine."

However, Khalifa said, "when we hear, listen and are sure of what these solutions are we will give our opinion on them."

The statement came at the heels of strong popular dismay over the results of the Gulf war placing blame on radical political movements which failed to extend practical aid to Iraq during the war. Many felt that statement calling for jihad and continued struggle, by Islamic and other political parties, amounted to vocal applause and no concrete actions.

"What happened in the Gulf, regardless of the way it has concurred, has been seen

as the beginning of a long bloody struggle between this nation and its enemies," the statement said.

"We have to adopt a comprehensive jihad policy to liberate all the land of Palestine from the grips of the Jews," the statement added.

In the Friday sermon aired on television, Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Ibrahim Zed Keilani also painted Iraq's military defeat in the Gulf war as another test of Muslim's will to fight for their holy places and an example to be learnt from and heeded.

"What took place in the Gulf is not bad but rather a good development in that it revealed the collaborators in the region," the Muslim Brotherhood Movement statement said.

The brotherhood's position on the Palestinian problem has always rejected recognition of Israel and any solutions which will allow for an accommodation with the Jewish state. It is in direct contrast with the Palestine Liberation Organisation's declared position which recognises Israel and calls for the implementation of the two U.N. resolutions and self determination for Palestinians.

The statement, which was issued at the same time as another by the Muslim Brotherhood Movement's deputies at the Lower House of Parliament, warned of plans to redraw the map of the region and called on the Islamic Nation to "return to Islam as an ideology, sharia as a way of life and refuse any rule or law which rejects Islam."

The statement of the movement's deputies also followed the same line of analysis of the Gulf war calling for concentrated efforts to support Iraq and its reconstruction.

However, their statement which also rejected "American and foreign attempts at imposing their hegemony over the region" did not refer to the U.N. resolutions directly.

"We have to continue to support our path and struggle through training, arm the people and set our hearts on jihad in preparation for our war with the Jews which will require all our efforts and resources," the deputies said in their statement.

Jordan Cooperative Organisation encourages livestock projects

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) has reached an agreement with a society of sheep breeders in the Karak Governorate on implementing a sheep-fattening project with a view of supplying the local market with lean meat for which there is great demand.

Under the agreement, JCO will provide animal feed, veterinary medicine and full technical supervision during the sheep-fattening process which is to be carried out by the society over a period of 70 days before handing the sheep to the agreement added.

A JCO official said that the agreement was designed to increase the amount of lean meat produced for local consumption.

The door is wide open for all cattle and sheep breeders to reach agreements with the JCO and to cooperate in a similar manner and benefit from the

facilities available at the JCO stations, he said.

The JCO earlier signed a series of agreements with groups of stock breeders in the Tafileh Governorate allowing them to benefit from the JCO stations to fatten sheep in addition to other agreements with stock breeders in the Amman and Zarqa regions to benefit from JCO stations in Azraq.

According to the official, the JCO has established five stations to help fatten sheep, located at Ramtha, Mafrqa, Karak, Azraq and Tafileh.

These stations, he said, provide modern enclosures for animals each accommodating some 17,500 heads per cycle, along with warehouses for animal feed adjoining a unit for providing medication to the sheep and selling veterinary medicine under the supervision of specialists working for the organisations.

Air France flies again to Amman next month

By Marjan M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — While most international air carriers have not yet announced when they will resume their suspended services to Middle Eastern destinations, Air France will resume its two flights a week to Jordan as of April 3, airline officials told the Jordan Times Monday.

"Flights from Paris to Larnaca and Cairo are no longer being cancelled and we expect Paris-Amman flights to resume April 3," said an Air France official here.

Because of the increased "risk factor" in a war zone, which affected most Middle Eastern countries, and the increased passenger surcharge — a premium of up to \$250 per passenger, almost all international airlines decided to suspend their flights to the Middle East from last November.

Some airlines suspended their flights in November but others waited until two days before the U.N. deadline (Jan. 15) for Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait to freeze their Middle East-bound flights.

Jordan's national carrier, Royal Jordanian, had to house a major part of its fleet in Vienna because the airline could not afford to pay the insurance premium.

Of the Eastern European airlines which did not stop their Jordan-bound flights, the Soviet airline, Aeroflot, continued its one flight a week throughout the 42 day war period.

International carriers such as Lufthansa, KLM, Singapore Airlines, Swiss-Air and Alitalia, all of whom had regular flights to Jordan, have said they are still uncertain as to when regular flights would be resumed.

Some smaller airlines, however, have already announced the resumption of their regular flights.

"Cyrus Airways will resume its regular flights to Jordan as of March 17," said an official of the Cypriot airline in Amman.

Airline officials, while cautious about setting a date, believe that normal flight schedules will be resumed within 4 to 6 weeks.

used to describe the effort that was put into forming the committee. It was the first time that students, professors and staff worked together as equals," Hamarneh said. "It destroyed the barrier between teachers and students and enabled a relationship to be formed."

Nawal Fayed (student) said: "There was a need to help Iraq and we all joined together in this." Nadia, a student and a member of the committee said, "the committee was formed to help Iraq, but on the other hand it was successful for us, because students and teachers worked together for a common cause."

"What we felt strongly during our work on the committee was the unity of purpose of the Jordanian people," Nasser Hreini, a student member of the committee said. Another student, Khaled Lawzi agreed: "It formed a connection between students and teachers in the quest to help the Iraqi people."

"No matter how much we give, it will never be sufficient because Iraq has given and sacrificed everything in its stand in the war," Nadia said. "Iraq stood up to the onslaught and what is needed is more than just a few donations."

Students who overheard her nodded in agreement and said that what had been achieved by the committee was "great" but that more was required.

"In the near future we will be thinking what we, as a committee, can best do for the Iraqi cause and for our university," Nadia affirmed.

The first objective the students have in mind is to expand the base of support for the committee. "We should gain more popular support, reach out to the people, explain our mission and try to convince them," explained Nadia.

Aside from the donations collected through the students, many events also took place at the university to collect money.

According to Nadia, a festival with patriotic songs brought in around JD 1,000. Another event was a basketball ball whereby each person could either buy a ticket or donate a carton of milk instead. Some people did both.

Zaben, mayors review needs of 8 municipalities

AMMAN (J.T.) — Heads of eight municipalities, mainly those in the southern parts of the country, Monday met Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Minister Mohammad Abdou Al Zaben and discussed with him loans to their towns, town planning issues and municipal services, among other topics.

The mayors of Um Al Basatin, Tafileh, Ghor Mazra, Ghor Safi, Ma'an, Ader, Madaba and Ma'an also discussed the appropriation of land for municipal projects and cleanliness campaigns in their regions, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Petra said that several decisions were taken concerning the loans but that a study of each municipality's financial situation would precede the granting of loans to these towns.

The mayors and the minister discussed topics related to road maintenance and public works projects in their regions.

According to the agency, a decision was also taken to deal with shortages in electricity supply to remote areas, and allocations were made for asphalting roads.

It said that Tafileh municipality would be granted a JD 10,000 loan to purchase equipment for cleanliness campaigns, while Ma'an municipality would receive JD 30,000 for road asphalting schemes and Madaba municipality would obtain a JD 300,000 loan to establish a garbage dump site.

AMMAN — While most international air carriers have not yet announced when they will resume their suspended services to Middle Eastern destinations, Air France will resume its two flights a week to Jordan as of April 3, airline officials told the Jordan Times Monday.

"Flights from Paris to Larnaca and Cairo are no longer being cancelled and we expect Paris-Amman flights to resume April 3," said an Air France official here.

Because of the increased "risk factor" in a war zone, which affected most Middle Eastern countries, and the increased passenger surcharge — a premium of up to \$250 per passenger, almost all international airlines decided to suspend their flights to the Middle East from last November.

Some airlines suspended their flights in November but others waited until two days before the U.N. deadline (Jan. 15) for Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait to freeze their Middle East-bound flights.

Jordan's national carrier, Royal Jordanian, had to house a major part of its fleet in Vienna because the airline could not afford to pay the insurance premium.

Of the Eastern European airlines which did not stop their Jordan-bound flights, the Soviet airline, Aeroflot, continued its one flight a week throughout the 42 day war period.

International carriers such as Lufthansa, KLM, Singapore Airlines, Swiss-Air and Alitalia, all of whom had regular flights to Jordan, have said they are still uncertain as to when regular flights would be resumed.

Some smaller airlines, however, have already announced the resumption of their regular flights.

"Cyrus Airways will resume its regular flights to Jordan as of March 17," said an official of the Cypriot airline in Amman.

Airline officials, while cautious about setting a date, believe that normal flight schedules will be resumed within 4 to 6 weeks.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Development Bank (ADB) has approved loans totalling JD 1,014 million for a number of industrial and medical services schemes. These loans will finance the production of cables and wires, an olive oil press, a marble works, a knitting factory, among others.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB)

has approved loans totalling JD 1,014 million for a number of industrial and medical services schemes. These loans will finance the production of cables and wires, an olive oil press, a marble

works, a knitting factory, among others.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB)

has approved loans totalling JD 1,014 million for a number of industrial and medical services schemes. These loans will finance the production of cables and wires, an olive oil press, a marble

works, a knitting factory, among others.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB)

has approved loans totalling JD 1,014 million for a number of industrial and medical services schemes. These loans will finance the production of cables and wires, an olive oil press, a marble

works, a knitting factory, among others.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB)

has approved loans totalling JD 1,014 million for a number of industrial and medical services schemes. These loans will finance the production of cables and wires, an olive oil press, a marble

works, a knitting factory, among others.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB)

has approved loans totalling JD 1,014 million for a number of industrial and medical services schemes. These loans will finance the production of cables and wires, an olive oil press, a marble

works, a knitting factory, among others.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB)

has approved loans totalling JD 1,014 million for a number of industrial and medical services schemes. These loans will finance the production of cables and wires, an olive oil press, a marble

works, a knitting factory, among others.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB)

has approved loans totalling JD 1,014 million for a number of industrial and medical services schemes. These loans will finance the production of cables and wires, an olive oil press, a marble

works, a knitting factory, among others.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB)

has approved loans totalling JD 1,014 million for a number of industrial and medical services schemes. These loans will finance the production of cables and wires, an olive oil press, a marble

works, a knitting factory, among others.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB)

has approved loans totalling JD 1,014 million for a number of industrial and medical services schemes. These loans will finance the production of cables and wires, an olive oil press, a marble

works, a knitting factory, among others.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB)

has approved loans totalling JD 1,014 million for a number of industrial and medical services schemes. These loans will finance the production of cables and wires, an olive oil press, a marble

works, a knitting factory, among others.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB)

has approved loans totalling JD 1,014 million for a number of industrial and medical services schemes. These loans will finance the production of cables and wires, an olive oil press, a marble

works, a knitting factory, among others.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB)

has approved loans totalling JD 1,014 million for a number of industrial and medical services schemes. These loans will finance the production of cables and wires, an olive oil press, a marble

works, a knitting factory, among others.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB)

has approved loans totalling JD 1,014 million for a number of industrial and medical services schemes. These loans will finance the production of cables and wires, an olive oil press, a marble

works, a knitting factory, among others.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB)

has approved loans totalling JD 1,014 million for a number of industrial and medical services schemes. These loans will finance the production of cables and wires, an olive oil press, a marble

works, a knitting factory, among others.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB)

has approved loans totalling JD 1,014 million for a number of industrial and medical services schemes. These loans will finance the production of cables and wires, an olive oil press, a marble

works, a knitting factory, among others.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB)

has approved loans totalling JD 1,014 million for a number of industrial and medical services schemes. These loans will finance the production of cables and wires, an olive oil press, a marble

works, a knitting factory, among others.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB)

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation
Established 1975

Chairman of the Board of Directors:
MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:
MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:
GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:
Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.
Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4
Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO
Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the
Jordan Times advertising department.

No to kangaroo justice

THERE ARE persistent reports emanating from Kuwait that the Palestinian residents of that country are in eminent danger. It appears that the Kuwaitis are bent on venting their anger at the Iraqi regime through taking it out on their Palestinian brothers for allegedly aiding and abetting the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait. There is nothing worse than making the Palestinians once again the scapegoats for the deeds of others. If the Palestinians end up being lynched by mobs in front of the very eyes of the Kuwaiti government and get persecuted collectively on the basis of guilt by association, then we are in for another Sabra and Shatila. This is not to suggest that any wrongdoing by residents of Kuwait, be they Palestinians or otherwise, may not be prosecuted in courts of law. But what should not be condoned or accepted ever is any attempt to carry out "kangaroo trials" of innocent Palestinians by Kuwaiti mobs roaming the streets in these difficult times.

Lest Kuwait and Kuwaitis forget, the Palestinian residents of Kuwait have not merely been wage earners; they also contributed effectively to the country's development and prosperity throughout the past four decades. Many thousands of them were born in the country and spent most if not all of their formative and productive years in it. For most of them, Kuwait is the only country that they know and have, even though they never enjoyed full civic or political rights there. There is enough Arab blood that was shed already in the Gulf war.

There must not be any more fratricide or retributions against a people who have suffered endlessly at the hands of the Israelis and their foreign backers. The government of Kuwait is therefore called upon to act expeditiously to prevent any act that may mar the joy of liberation. A clear message to the Kuwaiti people must be sent immediately to the effect that revenge against any Palestinian will not be tolerated and that whoever perpetrates such crimes will be brought to justice and punished.

The Arab League likewise must also act in the face of such ominous developments in Kuwait. The experiences of Lebanon must not be repeated.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

James Baker's coming tour of the Middle East will be a test of the U.S. administration's intentions and its claims that it is concerned to implement international legality and safeguard world peace and stability, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Monday. Baker's visit has been described as a move to pave the ground for the settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestine problem which had been festering at the U.N. organisation for more than four decades, the paper noted. It said that any solution to the Middle East question should be based totally on the international legality and founded on the principles of U.N. Security Council resolutions. Other than this will be totally unacceptable to the Arabs because the alternative is a U.S.-Zionist solution which can add no means to safeguard Palestinian people's interest, the paper added. In order to settle the Kuwaiti issue, the United States was quick to force the Security Council to issue a series of resolutions, and was quick to send its war machine to the Gulf to see that those resolutions were implemented, the paper pointed out. In order to evict Iraqi troops from Kuwait, the United States and its allies brought destruction to Iraqi cities, killing thousands of innocent civilians and devastating Iraq's economic infrastructure, the paper said. The Arabs who have been waiting for the Security Council resolutions to be implemented for many years, added the paper, can wait a bit longer now to see if the international legality is to be applied, and whether the United States would be able to force Israel to abide by the resolutions.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily Monday welcomes statements by a number of Kuwaiti officials who gave assurances about the well-being and safety of the Jordanian-Palestinian community in Kuwait, but he says words are not enough. Mahmoud Rimawi notes that contrary to what the officials say, the Jordanians and Palestinians are suffering at the hand of Kuwaiti groups who have reportedly carried out acts of intimidation or persecution against the Jordanian and Palestinian families that have been living in Kuwait for many years and helping to build modern Kuwait. The writer says that the Jordanian-Palestinian community had suffered most during the Gulf crisis, because its numbers had remained in the country protecting its interests and taking charge of institutions that had been abandoned by its owners. Many of the Jordanians and Palestinians living in Kuwait have been living there since the mid-thirties, and it was they who took the pioneering job of constructing the country with their minds and their hands; Rimawi continues. There have been reports about Kuwait's intention of getting rid of the non-Kuwaiti nationals to pave the ground for the importation of workers from foreign countries, and those the most likely to be evicted are the Jordanians and Palestinians, the writer adds. Should this be the case, Rimawi says, the Jordanian-Palestinian community deserves to be told so, and its interests preserved while they are evicted in an orderly manner. But, he adds, if this is not the case, the Jordanians and Palestinians need to hear a crystal-clear pledge from the Kuwaiti government about their safety and well-being.

The View from Fourth Circle

Seven decades, seven months and six wars

By Rami G. Khouri

THE relatively swift military defeat of the Iraqi army in the ground battle that never happened has shocked many people throughout the Arab World into momentary disbelief, concern and introspection. The moment calls for something politically more accurate, intellectually more honest, and historically more compelling. This is precisely the moment when we should be aware of the full reality on the ground throughout the region, and avoid the narrow geographic and political vision through which the cash register-coalition has viewed this conflict since its inception last year.

Despite the good news bulletins from the Iraqi side of the warfront and the many local tales of wonder we heard about thousands of dead, wounded or captured coalition troops, the military battle was no battle at all since the coalition achieved air superiority. The Iraqi troops were pounded on the ground for over a month, and the ground battle was no battle to speak of. It is irrelevant now to remember that we urged Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait and to resolve bilateral or regional problems through negotiations, as we urged the cash-register coalition to refrain from military force and heavy-handed political ultimatums as a means of conflict-resolution. Why Iraq allowed the crisis to culminate in a battle it could not win, and why the cash-register coalition insisted from the start on a massive show of military force and an uncompromising political posture which guaranteed the need to use that force, will be for history to answer in due course. However, the scale and speed of the Iraqi defeat should not blind us to the deeper political and human reality which still characterises the Middle East.

This is a moment of flag-waving and celebration for the cash-register coalition, who will spend several weeks or months revelling in what they see as a rare noble combination of moral authority, political resolve and military prowess. A narrow focus does that to people, so we will have to put up with it for a while. Some time this spring or summer, however, the cash register-coalition will have to ask itself: was the destruction of Iraq and Kuwait worth it? Could this dispute and the broader regional problems that fuelled it have been resolved without a war and without spending the approximately \$200 billion that shall have been the total cost of the confrontation, the war and the reconstruction of Kuwait and Iraq? What is the impact of the war, on the rest of the region and its various problems? What has been asserted other than the tremendous American technological and political capacity to destroy Third World societies and kill people whose skin colour, from the western perspective, is slightly dark and whose political aspirations are slightly suspect?

With its end, the military fight will now be seen to have been only an interlude of madness, a frenzied pause that can only be fully evaluated historically in terms of its possible impact on the aspirations of the people of the region for a life of justice, dignity and stability. The question repeats itself: was it worth it? Did it achieve anything? Could the same achievements have been

gained through non-violent means?

We now see the cash register-coalition members squabbling over the big bills and contracts, while the south of Iraq is offered to the world as a military raffle prize. In the meantime, Israel continues to jail thoughtful and moderate Palestinians who can challenge it to make peace, while it attacks other Palestinians in Lebanon and enlarges its government with politicians who preach expelling the Palestinians out of their ancestral homeland. In other words, the political and human reality of the Middle East region has started to reassess itself, only days after the fighting ended — and this is the same reality which saw the overwhelming majority of the people of the Arab World stand by Iraq in its confrontation with the cash-register coalition. The sentiments of anger, frustration, despair and hope for a better future which drove Arabs and Muslims to oppose American-led neo-colonial adventures in the region have paused for only a brief moment — partly because of shock at the sudden end of the war, partly to assess political assets/liabilities, and partly to await the international and Arab political follow-up to the seven-month long confrontation in the Gulf.

The confrontation escalated and ultimately resulted in war because the vast majority of Arab people were unsatisfied with their political, economic and national reality, and were willing to risk the madness of confrontation and war to make a political statement about a very simple human reality: the status quo which had defined the Arab World in the second half of this century is unacceptable to most Arabs. For Washington and London, however, the status quo is perfectly fine. Look at the last two decades: the Arab World spent hundreds of billions of dollars buying arms and other goods from the West, placed somewhere around \$500 billion in western banks and investments, spent at least \$30 billion to hire western armies to fight this war which destroyed Kuwait and Iraq, and now will spend another \$100-\$150 billion to reconstruct Arab lands and establish a flashy new security system which will require fresh purchases of tens of billions of dollars of western arms. All in all, this is a rather profitable arrangement for the West — so it is no wonder Great Britain worked so hard seven decades ago to put it in place, and the Arabs made it so clear seven months ago that it does not respond to their human needs and aspirations.

Did the members of the cash-register coalition get this Arab message? If they did, and the post-war period now sees a serious effort to solve the outstanding problems of the region, and to redress its artificial human and natural resource imbalances which stem from Britain's imperial arrogance earlier this century, then we may have a truly historic opportunity to see the Middle East enter into a new golden age. Initial signs are encouraging. Western leaders are talking in their sleep about the need to resolve the Palestine issue. One rarely bears the words "the Middle East" roll off human lips these days without a follow-up comment about the urgency of a more equitable economic

balance in the region, the need for arms control agreements, the usefulness of democracy and human rights, and the importance of justice as the foundation for stability.

We are not angry because of a mass hormonal disorder and we are not anti-American and anti-British because of Third World radical chic. Anti-American and anti-British rage and hatred dominate this region because people are fed up with being repeatedly hit and humiliated, they despair at a lifetime of national defeat and subjugation at the hands of a British-created and American-financed Israel, they worry about their immediate life prospects, and they fear for the future of their children. If the root causes of this attitude are dealt with and resolved, the Arab World will have its first opportunity in five long centuries to show what it can do and how it can contribute its share to the civilisation of the world, as it did in the past. In this context, reconciliation, honesty, and rationality should be the defining forces of the immediate future, both within the Arab World and between Arabs and westerners.

However, if the root problems of the region are left unresolved, are simply papered over to suit the mercantile calculations of the cash-register coalition, or are aggravated under a gruesome new groundswell of neo-colonial arrogance and greed, then the region will be in for some very dark days. The danger now is that those drinking from the fountains of money and militarism will become intoxicated to the point where they will worship money and militarism as the gods that bring stability, peace and security. But money and militarism are false and retributive gods. This, of course, is the mistake that scores of autocratic or short-sighted leaders have made around the world during the past several decades, including the Shah, Marcos, the South Africans, the Soviets in Afghanistan and East Europe, and many others. Let's hope the mistake is not repeated today, though the chances of repetition and short-sightedness are high when we deal with narrow-focus folk.

If the pan-Arab political message of the last seven months of confrontation and war is not heeded, it will resurface in the near future with greater vehemence and determination, with potentially tumultuous consequences. Many of us around here have been saying these same things about the Palestine issue for decades, to no avail. The result has been six regional wars (this last one being a mini-world war) and turmoil in many individual Arab states. Perhaps this will be the last war.

Perhaps now political leaders around the region and around the world will listen more earnestly to the aspirations of the Arab people. Perhaps this morally and physically destructive war was the price that finally made people realise the need to resolve the structural and political deficiencies of the region, or else face another explosion, in another part of the region, at another time. This may be the unavoidable message of the mass madness that recently engulfed the region and much of the world. Let us hope that lessons have been learned in the last seven months, and the last seven decades.

Palestinian losses, Israeli gains increase obstacles to peace

By Jack Redden
Reuter

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — The balance has tilted heavily against the Palestinians in the seven months of the Gulf crisis, leaving Israel stronger and Palestinians weaker as the search for peace between them resumes.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker saw his last plan for Israeli-Palestinian peace wounded by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and buried by the Gulf war. When he begins his first post-war Middle East tour later this week he will find the obstacles have grown.

"There is no incentive in this country to do anything but sit tight," a western diplomat said in

an appraisal dominated by pessimism.

Israel, struck by Iraqi missiles although not in the Gulf war, has won large amounts of western aid, regained the sympathy it lost in its unequal battle with the Palestinians and watched as its most formidable Arab enemy was crushed.

Palestinians, lining up behind Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, have alienated the West and former Arab patrons and face the most severe economic pressure in their 23 years under Israeli military rule.

Shamir talks bluntly of never relinquishing the West Bank and Gaza Strip, captured in the 1967 Middle East war and site of a revolt by the 1.75 Palestinian

residents that has lasted more than three years.

In what was seen by many as a signal to Washington of his attitude to any renewed pressure for Israeli concessions, Shamir expanded his government to include the most anti-Arab party in parliament.

Arrests of prominent Palestinians, including the jailing of soft-spoken academic Sari Nusseibeh for three months without trial on allegations he spied for Iraq, have reinforced the message.

The outbreak of the Gulf war also let Israel tighten the economic screws that had been squeezing Palestinians since the autumn. Restrictions on working in Israel originally enforced after Arab

knife attacks on Jews became a complete ban during most of the war.

The ban has been eased mainly to admit labourers needed by Israel's construction and citrus industries. However, many expect a permanent cut in the pre-war level of more than 100,000 Palestinians earning a living in Israel.

At the same time the Palestinians are suffering directly from the Gulf war. Remittances from relatives in Kuwait abruptly ended last August 2 when Iraq invaded.

They compounded the damage by openly siding with Iraq, angering the Saudis and other Gulf states that formerly dispensed funds to Palestinian institutions.

"They kept thinking that Saddam would be victorious," said Khalil Mahshi, principal of the Friends School in the West Bank town of Ramallah. "You create a lie and keep believing it."

The open hacking of Iraq by the Palestine Liberation Organisation has stripped it of most international support, leaving it even more unclear who could represent Palestinians in peace talks.

Both Israelis and Palestinians are speculating on a revival of attempts to build a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation for peace talks. Such efforts may be of little consequence as the Palestinian side has little power to force concessions.

Shamir's government is determined to give no more than limited self-rule to Palestinians and is relentlessly tightening its grip on the occupied territories through Jewish immigration.

In addition, Israel does not expect Washington, with troops still in the Gulf, to focus first on

Arafat, PLO face turbulent time

By Mona Ziaade
The Associated Press

NICOSIA, Cyprus — Hard times lie ahead for the Palestine Liberation Organisation and its chairman, Yasser Arafat, who supported Iraqi President Saddam Hussein in the Gulf war.

Arafat's backing of Saddam as the only Arab leader prepared to stand up to Israel also has eroded support for peace negotiations among some moderates in the Jewish state. And Israel may expect the United States to back it as a reward for staying out of the war despite Iraqi missile bombardments.

The PLO's relations with most Arab leaders are now soured by hostility and distrust and the movement itself has been shaken.

But with the war over, western and Arab leaders agree the time is ripe for a new drive to settle the Palestinian problem, the root of conflict in the Middle East for more than four decades.

"All efforts should now be deployed with the view of resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict with the same rapidity as that which settled the Gulf crisis, on the basis of international legality," declared Yasser Arafat, a member of the PLO's ruling executive committee in Tunis.

Achieving an Arab-Israeli peace will be the main test for the "new world order" President George Bush wants to establish.

That in itself is a political victory for the PLO, which for 23 years has warned there can be no peace in the Middle East until the Palestinian issue is resolved.

But the position of Israel's right-wing government has been hardened by the war and by Arafat's backing for Saddam.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has brought more hardliners into his cabinet. The continuing mass emigration of hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews to Israel, an issue overshadowed by the war, will again become a major bone of contention.

Arafat's backing of Saddam as the only Arab leader prepared to stand up to Israel also has eroded support for peace negotiations among some moderates in the Jewish state. And Israel may expect the United States to back it as a reward for staying out of the war despite Iraqi missile bombardments.

There are differences among the allies over how to tackle the Arab-Israeli dispute. The Americans broke off a dialogue with the PLO last May and show no willingness to resume it.

But France's foreign minister, Roland Dumas, declared Thursday that the PLO is the only organisation that can speak for the world's 5 million Palestinians.

Now the Gulf states are ceasing their financial support of the PLO. Before Arafat stood with Saddam, the PLO was getting some \$13 million a month from the Gulf states, much of which bankrolled the 3-year-old Palestinian uprising in Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The deportation by the Gulf states of many of the 2 million Palestinians who worked there has cut off another \$8 million to \$10 million a month in remittances.

Arafat years ago shrewdly made contingency plans for just

such an emergency by investing an estimated \$2 billion in Europe, Asia, Africa and the Middle East. But he still had to slash the PLO's annual \$300-million budget by 35 per cent.

Backing Saddam has left Arafat himself in precarious position. Saudi Arabia, once the PLO's main donor, and other Gulf states are not likely to forgive what they see as Arafat's betrayal until he is ousted.

But Arafat has been written off many times since he took control of the PLO in 1969 and welded it into a political and military force.

Arafat leaders have tried before to get rid of him. Some turned their armies on the PLO in the

1970s to curb the PLO's growing power. Egypt and Syria have engineered mutinies within the PLO.

Thirteen years ago, Zbigniew Brzezinski, then national security adviser to U.S. President Jimmy Carter, declared "bye-bye PLO" after Arafat opposed the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's peace overture to Israel.

Arafat was written off again in 1982 when Israel invaded Lebanon, stripping the PLO of its power base and forcing it to disperse its fighters around the Arab World.

A year later, he was fighting for his life against Syrian-backed radical dissidents opposed to his moves to seek to negotiate with Israel rather than continue the armed struggle and to halt terror attacks on non-Israeli targets.

But Arafat has survived because of the support he enjoys among the vast majority of Palestinians. To them, the 60-year-old pistol-packing revolutionary symbolises their struggle for a homeland.

Still, he now will have to face what could be his greatest challenge without his two most trusted advisers.

Salah Khalaf, Arafat's deputy, was assassinated in Tunis by a renegade bodyguard on the eve of the war. Arafat's military chief, Khalil Al Wazir, was slain by gunmen in Tunis April 16, 1988.

The PLO blamed Israel for both assassinations, which seriously weakened Arafat's inner circle and his operational apparatus.



Yasser Arafat

LETTERS

<h3

PoWs

(Continued from page 1)

were taken by Iraq, and that at least 60,000 Iraqis were taken prisoner.

Sixty-six allied troops were listed as missing—45 Americans, 10 Britons, 10 Saudis and one Italian—since the war began Jan. 17.

Wigger said the Red Cross so far did not have any access to the other PoWs.

"We understand this will be the beginning of a long process to liberate all the PoWs, the Iraqis and the allies," he said.

Angelo Gnaedinger, Red Cross delegate-general for the Middle East and North Africa, said all 10 allied soldiers freed Monday were found to be in good health after a checkup by Red Cross doctors.

The freeing of prisoners was among terms agreed to by Iraqi commanders in truce talks at an air base in southeastern Iraq on Sunday, three days after an informal ceasefire took hold.

Under the terms, U.S. forces would leave Iraqi territory once a permanent ceasefire is signed and Iraq has complied with all U.N. resolutions, including accepting liability for war damages and renouncing all claims to Kuwait.

Baghdad Radio announced later Sunday that Iraq had accepted United Nations peace conditions. In return, the Security Council authorised mercy flights into Baghdad of food, medicine and water purification equipment.

Despite the halt in hostilities, the conflict continued to claim lives. U.S. military officials announced the deaths of four more U.S. soldiers in a helicopter crash in northern Saudi Arabia on Saturday.

France begins pullout today

France will start withdrawing its forces from the Gulf Tuesday when a first flight of four Jaguar fighter-bombers return from Saudi Arabia to their home base at Toul east of Paris, an air force spokesman said.

The withdrawal of more than 50 French planes and about 120 helicopters will take place in stages with the last aircraft due back around September, the spokesman said.

President Francois Mitterrand said Sunday that French ground troops will start returning in April and all 16,000 men who participated in the conflict would be back by the autumn.

In London, Defence Secretary Tom King said he did not expect Britain to keep ground troops in the Gulf as part of any international peacekeeping force, but added that some British naval or air forces might stay on.

King, asked during a television interview in Kuwait what British forces might be stationed on a more permanent basis, said: "We don't envisage having any ground forces here in the Gulf in any particular country."

"It's quite possible that we'd see the need for maintaining a naval presence," he told the British Broadcasting Corporation. "The question of the RAF (Royal Air Force), that's something that we're looking at as well."

King, visiting British forces in the region, said the withdrawal of the 40,000 British troops could start "two weeks after we're sure of the ceasefire."

Ibrahim

(Continued from page 1)

deep-rooted tradition, and its symbol—the leader of the march, under those auspicious leadership we enjoy a standing envied by those near and far."

Ibrahim told the group that the "grand victory achieved against the most tyrannical forces of evil and crime in the world is a great honour for us, but martyrdom for its sake is a greater honour."

Iraq's official Islamic Republic news agency, monitored in Nicosia, reported five explosions at midday in Basra. It said refugees fleeing the violence were streaming into Iran across the border at Shalamcheh.

Iraqi opposition sources said Arafat, Syria, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Iraqi Shi'ite are sending fighters into Basra.

They said the Shi'ites, who make up 55 per cent of the Iraqi population, have asked the Kurdish minority to smuggle guerrillas into northern Iraq, forcing Saddam to divide his loyal forces for fighting on two fronts. Saddam and most of his inner circle are Sunni Muslims.

The sources in Damascus also said that some Iraqi Shi'ite clerics who have been living in exile for more than 20 years plan to return to Basra in the next few days to deliver their Friday sermons there.

Earlier, refugees fleeing Iraq told reporters in Iran that Saddam's eldest son, Uday, was killed in the battle, along with a provincial governor and the mayor of Basra, according to Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency. An Iraqi opposition leader in

Damascus, Syria, also reported the killings Sunday of the governor and mayor in the reported uprising. The leader did not mention Saddam's son Uday.

The Iranian agency said the refugees reported government forces were using tanks and heavy weapons to battle the rebels. It said the sound of explosions could be heard 25 miles away in the Iranian city of Khorramshahr.

The agency said some people were wounded in the clashes.

The reports could not be independently confirmed.

The news agency reported five explosions over 25 minutes at midday rocked Basra and its suburbs. The violent explosions could be heard on the Iranian side of the border.

The cause of the explosions was not immediately known, the news agency said.

Quoting an Iraqi refugee who identified himself as Oud Jalil Sekar from Tanaona, the news agency said Iraqi soldiers had broken into army warehouses in Basra and distributed food and other supplies to the local population.

Sekar told the news agency that he walked from southern Iraq into Iran and on his way saw many old men and women as well as many children on the road to the border.

He added that allied forces had begun handing over the bodies of Iraqi soldiers killed in action to the people of Basra for burial.

U.S. military sources said 7,000 soldiers were recalled to Baghdad, apparently to protect Saddam. The U.S. military sources said Saddam had ordered two mechanised brigades from the Turkish and Iranian borders to the capital.

Iraq's official radio portrayed Saddam as maintaining a firm hold on power. Baghdad Radio said he met with the ruling Revolutionary Command Council and the Baath Party regional command, to discuss "the latest developments in the political meeting." No details of the meeting were provided.

Iraqi officials have not commented on the reports of unrest.

Mohammad Baqer Al Hakim told reporters that Basra's governor was killed in the revolt. Retreating soldiers and low-rank officers of Saddam's army had talked to an Iranian leader since the revolution.

France's foreign minister, Roland Dumas, stressed: "Iran will have an important role to play in the postwar negotiations."

Representative Lee Hamilton,

who chairs the House of Representatives subcommittee on the Middle East, noted last month that the United States "should be receptive to efforts to establish new and better ties when (Iran) is willing to settle outstanding issues."

He was referring to the western hostages, including six Americans, held by pro-Iranian Shi'ite Muslim extremists in Lebanon, and the issue of billions of dollars of Iranian assets frozen in the United States since 1979.

Snow noted: "It could well be that the war will mark the end of Tehran's 11-year flirtation with revolutionary extremism and the emergence of Iran as an influential and respected player on both the regional and international scenes."

NEWS ANALYSIS

For sure, the restoration of relations between Teheran and Washington, severed by President Jimmy Carter in 1979, will not happen overnight.

Rafsanjani thus signalled his readiness to "overturn one of the fundamental principles of Iranian foreign policy" since the 1979 Islamic revolution, said veteran Middle East analyst Charles Snow.

Secretary of State James A. Baker acknowledged the next day that "Iran, as a major power in the Gulf... could have an important part to play... the building a reinforced network of new and strengthened security ties" in the region.

Arab diplomats said U.S. President George Bush later sent a message to Rafsanjani, although its contents were not known.

In addition, French President Francois Mitterrand telephoned Rafsanjani and spoke with him for two hours, the first time he had talked to an Iranian leader since the revolution.

France's foreign minister, Roland Dumas, stressed: "Iran will have an important role to play in the postwar negotiations."

Rafsanjani has over the last

two years steadily gained control of the centres of power in Tehran. He has largely marginalised the radicals and whittled down opposition to his policies.

But there remains an ambivalence towards the United States. Iranians are suspicious of U.S. intentions in the region and fear the Americans will seek to expand their influence, particularly over Gulf oil.

On Sunday, Rafsanjani warned the United States against stationing forces in the Gulf or attempting to sponsor a security arrangement.

Iran believes the Americans intend to maintain a sizeable military presence in the region for some time, despite Bush's promises that U.S. forces would be withdrawn as soon as possible once Kuwait was liberated.

U.S. Defense Secretary Dick Cheney said Saturday that a carrier battle group and a "robust air presence" will likely be kept in the Gulf. But he stressed that Washington wants to avoid a "politically objectionable" presence.

Ritual condemnation of the Americans still issues from Teheran. Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Khomeini's successor, on Saturday branded Bush "the most hated man" for Muslims.

But analysts believe Khamenei regularly spouts such anti-American rhetoric to mollify Iran's radicals rather than by way of espousing official policy.

For their part, the Americans would not like to see Iran fill the power vacuum in the postwar period now that Iraq has been humbled.

But Baker's Feb. 6 statement showed that Washington acknowledges that there can be no lasting stability in the Gulf without Iranian participation.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

In Leipzig, the industrial city where the 1989 revolution that led to union with the west erupted, homeless people sleep in heated railway coaches parked in the cavernous main station.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

Young women take up prostitution for lack of legitimate work. Unemployed rightwing beats up Asians and Africans, many of whom were brought to east Germany as guest workers by the former Communist government.

John beats kid-brother in battle of the McEnroes

CHICAGO (AP) — John found no particular joy in beating younger brother Patrick in the battle of the McEnroes.

"I have incredibly mixed emotions right now," John McEnroe said after his victory. "Every emotion you can imagine was there ... from worrying to how he's doing, to worrying that he might beat you."

Six years ago, John buried Patrick 6-2, 6-1 in a tournament at Stratton, Vermont. This time, 32-year-old John, down a set, struggled to a 3-6, 6-2, 6-4 victory over Patrick, 24, in the final of the Volvo indoor.

Patrick was in charge after winning the first set but John called on his experience and an array of shots to square the match.

John said after he dropped the first set his feelings about himself were not very positive.

"Where was the nearest building to jump off? What was came to mind, the elder McEnroe said.

Patrick, ranked 51st in the world to John's 19th, had another chance in the third set when he took advantage of unforced errors to break John's service lead 4-2.

John used passing shots to break back in the third game, however, held serve to even the match and took the lead with another break in the fifth game.

Patrick said he thought he played well in the match, adding he did not enjoy it much.

"I wasn't nervous, but I never felt comfortable either," he said. "I never felt I wanted to win real bad, like I have at other tournaments."

"I tried to win each point, but overall I was not as intense. I do not hope to get another chance to beat him."

At several points during the match John showed frustration over line calls. But he exercised unusual restraint, keeping his explosive temper in check.

"I felt it was very important in this situation not to take away from my victory or my defeat with an emotional outburst," he said.

The opponents' father, John Sr., said he was pleased by the pleasantness of the match.

"It was the kind of match I wanted them to have," he said, adding that he wasn't rooting for either son.

"I meant what I said before the match, there isn't going to be a loser."

Their mother, Kaye, stayed home in New York because she was too nervous to watch them play, John said. He said he asked her to come, but she said "are you kidding."

John got his 77th career tournament victory, and denied Patrick his first, in the third men's final involving brothers. Gene Mayer beat Sancho Mayer at Stockholm in 1981 and Emilio Sanchez beat Javier Sanchez at Madrid in 1987.

Patrick said he thought he played well in the opening game of the match, taking a 1-0 lead when John double-faulted. John had a chance to even the match in the sixth game after taking a 0-10 lead. But Patrick made it 30-10 with volleys at the net, got the advantage with consecutive service winners and jumped ahead 4-2 when John put a service return into the net.

Patrick won the set when John double-faulted on set point. John broke Patrick's service twice in winning the second set.

Seles clinches no. 1 ranking

PALM SPRINGS, California (R)

— Monica Seles of Yugoslavia made certain she will end the record reign of Steffi Graf as women's world number one by beating Canadian Helen Kelesi 6-0 6-3 to reach the final of the Virginia Slims of Palm Springs Tennis Tournament.

Seles won two matches Sunday to reach Monday's final of the rain-delayed tournament against second seed Martina Navratilova and guarantee she would overtake Graf, whose reign of 185 consecutive weeks is the longest ever in tennis.

Defending champion Martina Navratilova, outplayed seventh seed Nathalie Tauziat of France 6-3 7-6 (7-3) in the other semifinal. Navratilova beat another French woman, 15th seed Julie Halar, 6-2 7-5 in the quarters.

Seles won the first nine games against Kelesi, wearing the Canadian down by hitting her shots to the corners of the court and making Kelesi work just to stay in the points.

Kelesi, who beat American Peanut Louie Harper 6-4 3-6 6-2 in her quarter-final, said she was exhausted from playing two matches. "I really didn't have any energy," Kelesi said.

Seles said she wants to claim the women's crown as soon as possible.

Patrick broke John's serve in the opening game of the match, taking a 1-0 lead when John double-faulted. John had a chance to even the match in the sixth game after taking a 0-10 lead. But Patrick made it 30-10 with volleys at the net, got the advantage with consecutive service winners and jumped ahead 4-2 when John put a service return into the net.

Patrick won the set when John double-faulted on set point. John broke Patrick's service twice in winning the second set.

"I definitely think I deserve it. It would be a great feeling to do it by beating Martina. It's better than waiting for next week," Seles said.

Before beating Kelesi, the top-seeded Seles eliminated Patricia Hy 7-5 6-2 in the quarter-finals as both rounds had to be played Sunday after rain washed out programmes from Wednesday until Saturday.

Defending champion Martina Navratilova, outplayed seventh seed Nathalie Tauziat of France 6-3 7-6 (7-3) in the other semifinal. Navratilova beat another French woman, 15th seed Julie Halar, 6-2 7-5 in the quarters.

Seles won the first nine games against Kelesi, wearing the Canadian down by hitting her shots to the corners of the court and making Kelesi work just to stay in the points.

Kelesi, who beat American Peanut Louie Harper 6-4 3-6 6-2 in her quarter-final, said she was exhausted from playing two matches. "I really didn't have any energy," Kelesi said.

Seles said she wants to claim the women's crown as soon as possible.

Patrick broke John's serve in the opening game of the match, taking a 1-0 lead when John double-faulted. John had a chance to even the match in the sixth game after taking a 0-10 lead. But Patrick made it 30-10 with volleys at the net, got the advantage with consecutive service winners and jumped ahead 4-2 when John put a service return into the net.

Patrick won the set when John double-faulted on set point. John broke Patrick's service twice in winning the second set.

Seles and Navratilova are skipping the event.

If the seeds hold form, the semifinals will pit Graf against Fernandez and Sabatini against Capriati.

A year ago, Capriati reached the final in her professional debut before losing to Sabatini 6-1, 7-5. This year, Capriati is ranked 10th in the world and Sabatini figures the promising teen-ager will feel the weight of high expectations.

"Now it's different," Sabatini said. "She's in the top 10 and is going to feel the pressure."

Sabatini has fond memories of the Virginia Slims of Florida, in part because she defeated Graf for the first time in the 1988 final.

Graf, who drew a first-round bye, probably will open against 13th seeded Anke Huber, the 16-year-old German who is tired of being labelled the next Graf.

Capriati will open against the

winner of Monday's match between Ann Grossman and Karin Kschwendt.

Sabatini, who just returned to Key Biscayne, Florida, after a month's break in Buenos Aires, Argentina, said she feels rested.

In her last tournament, in early February, she defeated Graf, Fernandez and Navratilova to capture an indoor event in Tokyo.

The top five players are

balanced closely in computer points, but Sabatini said, "I don't have it on my mind to be no. 1. I don't think about it."

It's a very strong field," said Sabatini.

Graf, no. 1 for the past 137 weeks, said staying on top has become tougher.

"The players in the top five have tuned their game up," she said. "Already at a young age, there are so many players."

Capriati will open against the

winner of Monday's match between Ann Grossman and Karin Kschwendt.

Sabatini, who just returned to Key Biscayne, Florida, after a month's break in Buenos Aires, Argentina, said she feels rested.

In her last tournament, in early February, she defeated Graf, Fernandez and Navratilova to capture an indoor event in Tokyo.

The top five players are

balanced closely in computer points, but Sabatini said, "I don't have it on my mind to be no. 1. I don't think about it."

It's a very strong field," said Sabatini.

Graf, no. 1 for the past 137 weeks, said staying on top has become tougher.

"The players in the top five have tuned their game up," she said. "Already at a young age, there are so many players."

Capriati will open against the

winner of Monday's match between Ann Grossman and Karin Kschwendt.

Sabatini, who just returned to Key Biscayne, Florida, after a month's break in Buenos Aires, Argentina, said she feels rested.

In her last tournament, in early February, she defeated Graf, Fernandez and Navratilova to capture an indoor event in Tokyo.

The top five players are

balanced closely in computer points, but Sabatini said, "I don't have it on my mind to be no. 1. I don't think about it."

It's a very strong field," said Sabatini.

Graf, no. 1 for the past 137 weeks, said staying on top has become tougher.

"The players in the top five have tuned their game up," she said. "Already at a young age, there are so many players."

Capriati will open against the

winner of Monday's match between Ann Grossman and Karin Kschwendt.

Sabatini, who just returned to Key Biscayne, Florida, after a month's break in Buenos Aires, Argentina, said she feels rested.

In her last tournament, in early February, she defeated Graf, Fernandez and Navratilova to capture an indoor event in Tokyo.

The top five players are

balanced closely in computer points, but Sabatini said, "I don't have it on my mind to be no. 1. I don't think about it."

It's a very strong field," said Sabatini.

Graf, no. 1 for the past 137 weeks, said staying on top has become tougher.

"The players in the top five have tuned their game up," she said. "Already at a young age, there are so many players."

Capriati will open against the

winner of Monday's match between Ann Grossman and Karin Kschwendt.

Sabatini, who just returned to Key Biscayne, Florida, after a month's break in Buenos Aires, Argentina, said she feels rested.

In her last tournament, in early February, she defeated Graf, Fernandez and Navratilova to capture an indoor event in Tokyo.

The top five players are

balanced closely in computer points, but Sabatini said, "I don't have it on my mind to be no. 1. I don't think about it."

It's a very strong field," said Sabatini.

Graf, no. 1 for the past 137 weeks, said staying on top has become tougher.

"The players in the top five have tuned their game up," she said. "Already at a young age, there are so many players."

Capriati will open against the

winner of Monday's match between Ann Grossman and Karin Kschwendt.

Sabatini, who just returned to Key Biscayne, Florida, after a month's break in Buenos Aires, Argentina, said she feels rested.

In her last tournament, in early February, she defeated Graf, Fernandez and Navratilova to capture an indoor event in Tokyo.

The top five players are

balanced closely in computer points, but Sabatini said, "I don't have it on my mind to be no. 1. I don't think about it."

It's a very strong field," said Sabatini.

Graf, no. 1 for the past 137 weeks, said staying on top has become tougher.

"The players in the top five have tuned their game up," she said. "Already at a young age, there are so many players."

Capriati will open against the

winner of Monday's match between Ann Grossman and Karin Kschwendt.

Sabatini, who just returned to Key Biscayne, Florida, after a month's break in Buenos Aires, Argentina, said she feels rested.

In her last tournament, in early February, she defeated Graf, Fernandez and Navratilova to capture an indoor event in Tokyo.

The top five players are

balanced closely in computer points, but Sabatini said, "I don't have it on my mind to be no. 1. I don't think about it."

It's a very strong field," said Sabatini.

Graf, no. 1 for the past 137 weeks, said staying on top has become tougher.

"The players in the top five have tuned their game up," she said. "Already at a young age, there are so many players."

Capriati will open against the

winner of Monday's match between Ann Grossman and Karin Kschwendt.

Sabatini, who just returned to Key Biscayne, Florida, after a month's break in Buenos Aires, Argentina, said she feels rested.

In her last tournament, in early February, she defeated Graf, Fernandez and Navratilova to capture an indoor event in Tokyo.

The top five players are

balanced closely in computer points, but Sabatini said, "I don't have it on my mind to be no. 1. I don't think about it."

It's a very strong field," said Sabatini.

Graf, no. 1 for the past 137 weeks, said staying on top has become tougher.

"The players in the top five have tuned their game up," she said. "Already at a young age, there are so many players."

Capriati will open against the

winner of Monday's match between Ann Grossman and Karin Kschwendt.

Sabatini, who just returned to Key Biscayne, Florida, after a month's break in Buenos Aires, Argentina, said she feels rested.

In her last tournament, in early February, she defeated Graf, Fernandez and Navratilova to capture an indoor event in Tokyo.

The top five players are

balanced closely in computer points, but Sabatini said, "I don't have it on my mind to be no. 1. I don't think about it."

It's a very strong field," said Sabatini.

Graf, no. 1 for the past 137 weeks, said staying on top has become tougher.

"The players in the top five have tuned their game up," she said. "Already at a young age, there are so many players."

Capriati will open against the

winner of Monday's match between Ann Grossman and Karin Kschwendt.

Sabatini, who just returned to Key Biscayne, Florida, after a month's break in Buenos Aires, Argentina, said she feels rested.

Asian tourism faces hard work to recoup war losses

HONG KONG (R) — Asia's booming tourism industry, hard hit by the fall-out from the Gulf war, will have to work to recoup losses chalked up in the past few months.

Hotel occupancy rates are way down and the number of visitors from the Middle East, Europe and the United States has slowed to a trickle.

Midway through 1990 a traveller without a reservation would have been hard-pressed to get a room at one of Hong Kong's luxury hotels.

Now the upmarket Hotel Conrad, eager to better its occupancy rates of well under 50 per cent, is offering a 40 per cent cut in room rates in a bid to pull in business.

In the Indonesian holiday island of Bali it is the same story. Hotels which last year were packed with visitors report occupancy rates of around 20 per cent.

"I went into a \$150 a night five star (in Bali) and as a joke offered them \$20 for their best room, and they said yes," said one foreign resident of Jakarta.

In Malaysia, which reported a bumper response to its 1990 "Visit Malaysia" campaign, arrivals in January this year plummeted 14.6 per cent compared with January last year.

But local tourism experts were quick to discount the Gulf effect. "European tourists may delay their travelling until the war is over," said Azman Harun, president of the Malaysian Association of Hotels.

Thailand, whose tourism business has hit a 30 per cent decline since the war started, sees the industry gradually recovering.

Middle East holidaymakers, once big players in the Thai tourist market, have all but vanished. Arrivals of Saudi Arabians plummeted by 96.1 per cent in the last quarter of 1990, compared with the same period for 1989.

David Wing, vice president of the Thai Hotels Association, saw March as being the wait-and-see month.

"People will see whether it is a permanent ceasefire," but added that he didn't expect business to pick up until November, traditionally the start of Thailand's high season.

The Tourist Authority of Thailand, anxious that the country's reputation as a major holiday destination be preserved, sent delegations throughout Asia and Europe carrying the message that the kingdom was safe.

In the Philippines, where hotels reported occupancy rates of around 56 per cent, some hotel

managers reported signs that things were improving.

"We are beginning to experience an increase in bookings and hopefully by the middle of the year, if nothing else happens along the way, we will have the normal flow," said Lenny Fabul of the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in Manila.

The Japanese, regarded as being in the Olympic class when it comes to travelling abroad in groups, can be expected to switch their focus back to international trips as the fallout from the Gulf war subsides.

Officials at the Japan National Tour Organisation said fear of "terrorism" and what be termed negative psychological factors — the fleeing that pleasure trips should not be taken when a war is in progress — would subside with the end of hostilities.

Hong Kong, a traditional shopping and hub point for tourists from Europe, the United States and Asia, knows it needs a major campaign to bring things back on track.

"The Gulf war has definitely affected the arrival figures for this year as a greater increase would normally have been expected," said Hong Kong Tourist Association Chairman Martin Barrow.

World Bank expects significant role to rebuild Iraq, Kuwait

SANTIAGO, Chile (R) — The World Bank expects to help rebuild Kuwait and Iraq, even though they are not eligible for loans because of their high per capita incomes, bank president Barber Conable said Sunday.

He said the bank will probably help with technical assistance, coordination of aid flows and institutional development activities.

"Because they are members of the World Bank, I would expect us to have a significant role, but it will have to be defined in negotiations among many of the con-

cerned countries," Conable told a news conference.

Conable said Iraq and Kuwait were not eligible for World Bank loans on the basis of their abundant oil wealth.

Technical assistance is provided to some Gulf states but is reimbursable, he said.

"The reservoir of talent and motivation (gathered by) the World Bank in 45 years of experience in development and reconstruction make it probable that the nations of the world will turn to us for a significant role," he said.

Kuwait Airways staff to fly home Thursday

CAIRO (R) — A Kuwait Airways plane will land at Kuwait airport Thursday for the first time since Iraq invaded seven months ago, a company executive said Monday.

Deputy director general Yousef Al Jassem told Reuters a Boeing 727 carrying engineers and flight crews would fly from Cairo, the exiled airline's temporary headquarters.

"The runway is alright, it can take airplanes. But the ground terminals and premises have been heavily damaged," he said. "All the ground handling equipment has been looted."

He said the airline chairman and director general were in Kuwait to study how quickly reparation could be made.

When Iraq invaded Kuwait on Aug. 2, eight of the airline's 23 airplanes were out of the country. Most staff and management fled abroad.

In October the company began limited flights to New York, London, the Gulf and India from Cairo, partly as a political statement to show the Kuwaiti flag.

Jassem said he had no word on the fate of the aircraft in Kuwait at the time of the invasion. Earlier, the airline said it believed they had been flown to various airports within Iraq.

"We have nothing on the aircraft. But they definitely fall within the last U.N. Security Council resolution calling for compensation for Kuwait," he said.

Kuwait Airways said in October it had submitted a \$690 million insurance claim in London for the lost aircraft and another \$150 million for spare parts taken by Iraq.

Jassem said a contract had been signed with the U.S. consulting firm Arthur Andersen to prepare a plan for rebuilding the airline, but so far no other contracts had been awarded.

"The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

The first priority will be to reestablish and rebuild facilities in Kuwait to receive passengers, either on Kuwait Airways or other airlines," said Jassem.

Latvia, Estonia defy Gorbachev in large voters for independence

RIGA, USSR (AP) — Latvians and Estonians have voted overwhelmingly for independence from the Soviet Union, sharpening the Baltic republics' standoff against the Kremlin which is trying to hold the nation together.

The referendums carried no legal weight but represented a challenge to President Mikhail Gorbachev.

With most ballots counted after Sunday's plebiscites, secession was favoured by more than three-fourths of the voters in both republics, officials said.

In Latvia, 77 per cent voted in favour of separation and 21 per cent voted against, election officials said, with only three districts in Riga remaining to report. They said 88 per cent of eligible voters cast ballots.

In Estonia, 77.8 per cent voted for independence, election officials said. Nearly 83 per cent of the voters cast ballots, they said.

According to unofficial results, members of the Russian majority in both republics joined ethnic Latvians and Estonians in calling for secession, despite warnings from Moscow that the non-indigenous population would be second-class citizens if independence were approved.

The balloting was similar to a Feb. 9 referendum in which

Lithuanians voted overwhelming in favour of independence.

"The freely expressed will of the Latvian nation has overcome and won a victory over the ideas expressed by the totalitarian regime," said Andrejs Krastins, deputy chairman of Latvia's parliament.

Officials had said the votes of ethnic Russians in the two republics would be important to give weight to Sunday's referendums.

Krastins said early Monday that a majority voted for independence even in the city of Daugavpils, where ethnic Latvians make up only 12 per cent of the population. The rest of the city's residents are Russian, Ukrainian or Byelorussian.

"All those who live in Latvia and who are non-Latvians have proved they were altogether with the Latvian nation, and they are supporting the cause of independence," said Krastins.

"It means only one thing: The Latvian nation has firmly expressed the wish to be free, and nobody can stop us on the way to this freedom."

Only 54 per cent of Latvia's 2.7 million people are ethnic Latvians — 33 per cent are Russians. Sixty-five per cent of Estonia's 1.5 million residents are ethnic Estonians and 28 per cent are Russians.

The referendum was an emotional issue. "We have dreamed all our lives about independence. Our fathers lived in a free Latvia," said Zinaigur Radjabova, 49.

The Estonian News Agency (ETA) quoted election official Osvald Kukk as saying the vote would "show Moscow and, most of all, the whole world what people in Estonia want."

Kukk said Gorbachev tried to persuade the West that only a small percentage of Estonians wanted independence. "Now the world press is here to get the opposite story."

More than 112 independent observers, representing 14 foreign countries as well as Soviet republics, watched the balloting and no violations were reported.

The pro-Kremlin opposition group called "Ravnopravie" or Equal Rights, however, circulated a statement in Riga late Sunday citing violations in polling procedures, according to the Soviet State News Agency (TASS).

In Latvia, pro-Kremlin forces distributed leaflets and posters that warned that a "yes" vote would lead to a "totalitarian" regime and turn non-ethnic Latvians into second-class citizens. But they failed to dissuade many Russians from supporting the separatist cause.

Gorbachev has scheduled a nationwide referendum for March 17 on holding together the 15 Soviet republics. Leaders of the Baltics, as well as of the republics of Armenia, Georgia and Moldavia, have said they won't participate.

Although Gorbachev has demanded the Baltic republics hold referendums before they may become independent, he fulfilled

Democrats urge Gorbachev to resign

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet Union's democratic reformers have joined forces in an anti-Communist coalition and called for President Mikhail Gorbachev's resignation. TASS reported.

Twenty-one groups from 11 of the 15 republics joined forces during the meeting of the Democratic Congress, according to TASS, the state news agency.

For the first time, representatives of disparate groups joined forces with a common, well-defined goal.

The group called for Gorbachev's resignation as president and transfer of power to the Federation Council, which includes the presidents of all 15 republics; a rejection of preservation of the Soviet Union in a national referendum planned by

the Kremlin for March 17; the drafting of a "treaty of a commonwealth of sovereign states" as an alternative to Gorbachev's proposed new union treaty, and a rejection of communism.

In calling for Gorbachev's resignation, the Democratic Congress rallied behind Russian President Boris Yeltsin, who provoked a nationwide controversy by making such a suggestion during a television interview on Feb. 19. He accused Gorbachev of sacrificing democratic reforms to gain personal power and accused the president of leading the country to a dictatorship.

The Democratic Congress includes the Democratic Russia Movement; the Ukrainian People's Front, called Rukh; a miners' union; the Byelorussian National Front and small political parties from several other republics, the Postfactum News Agency said.

Protestant 'loyalists' kill four in Northern Ireland

BELFAST (AP) — Gunmen killed four people and wounded one at a pub Sunday night, police said. The bar was popular with Catholics and the gunmen were believed to be Protestant "loyalists," the news agency Press Association reported.

The wounded man was listed in serious condition with gunshot wounds at a Belfast hospital, said a spokesman for the Royal Ulster Constabulary, who requested anonymity.

A witness said the gunmen fired on four men in a car as it pulled up in front of Boyles Pub in the village of Cappagh, about 80 kilometres west of Belfast.

"One of the men in the car, a cousin of mine, attempted obviously to escape by jumping over a wall, however he was fatally wounded," the unidentified witness told British Broadcasting Corp. Radio. "Another man inside the bar ran for cover to the toilet and one of the gunmen went up and put the gun rule."

Some former E. German secret archives missing

BERLIN (AP) — Ousted East German leader Erich Honecker ordered all documents detailing the construction of the Berlin Wall separated from other classified government files, and the records are now missing, a newspaper has said.

The Berliner Morgenpost based its report on an interview with Friedrich Kahlenberg, head of the German Federal Archives, which took custody of the tonnes of East German government documents after unification.

According to Kahlenberg, Honecker ordered that the records on the construction of the Berlin Wall in 1961 be separated from other government archives some time before the peaceful revolution that toppled the East German government in 1989, the newspaper said.

It has not been determined, however, whether the records were destroyed or hidden somewhere, the newspaper continued. Kahlenberg, in the interview, did not say whether he believed the records were significant or of purely historical interest.

Honecker faces charges in connection with the deaths of people killed while trying to flee over the Berlin Wall.

The Berlin newspaper also reported that the former East German government records in-

last month's Lithuanian vote before it occurred and has criticised the Latvian and Estonian polls.

The question on the Latvian ballot was: "Do you support the democratic and independent statehood of the Republic of Latvia?"

Officials had said the votes of ethnic Russians in the two republics would be important to give weight to Sunday's referendums.

Krastins said early Monday that a majority voted for independence even in the city of Daugavpils, where ethnic Latvians make up only 12 per cent of the population. The rest of the city's residents are Russian, Ukrainian or Byelorussian.

"All those who live in Latvia and who are non-Latvians have proved they were altogether with the Latvian nation, and they are supporting the cause of independence," said Krastins.

"It means only one thing: The Latvian nation has firmly expressed the wish to be free, and nobody can stop us on the way to this freedom."

Only 54 per cent of Latvia's 2.7 million people are ethnic Latvians — 33 per cent are Russians. Sixty-five per cent of Estonia's 1.5 million residents are ethnic Estonians and 28 per cent are Russians.

The referendum was an emotional issue. "We have dreamed all our lives about independence. Our fathers lived in a free Latvia," said Zinaigur Radjabova, 49.

The Estonian News Agency (ETA) quoted election official Osvald Kukk as saying the vote would "show Moscow and, most of all, the whole world what people in Estonia want."

Kukk said Gorbachev tried to persuade the West that only a small percentage of Estonians wanted independence. "Now the world press is here to get the opposite story."

More than 112 independent observers, representing 14 foreign countries as well as Soviet republics, watched the balloting and no violations were reported.

The pro-Kremlin opposition group called "Ravnopravie" or Equal Rights, however, circulated a statement in Riga late Sunday citing violations in polling procedures, according to the Soviet State News Agency (TASS).

In Latvia, pro-Kremlin forces distributed leaflets and posters that warned that a "yes" vote would lead to a "totalitarian" regime and turn non-ethnic Latvians into second-class citizens. But they failed to dissuade many Russians from supporting the separatist cause.

Gorbachev has scheduled a nationwide referendum for March 17 on holding together the 15 Soviet republics. Leaders of the Baltics, as well as of the republics of Armenia, Georgia and Moldavia, have said they won't participate.

Although Gorbachev has demanded the Baltic republics hold referendums before they may become independent, he fulfilled

New Bangladesh government likely today

DHAKA (R) — Begum Khaleda Zia is likely to be sworn in as Bangladesh prime minister at the head of a new government Tuesday after her sweeping victory in parliamentary elections, official sources said.

"Khaleda Zia has been asked to finalise a list of the members of her cabinet which will possibly be sworn tomorrow," one source said Monday.

Khaleda's victory in the polls last Wednesday severely embarrassed her archrival Sheikh Hasina, who is reported to be on the verge of quitting as leader of the Awami League.

The newspaper Ittefaq said Monday that Hasina, daughter of first Bangladesh President Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, had already submitted her resignation to party General Secretary Begum Sajeda Chowdhury. The report could not be independently confirmed.

Khaleda's Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) won 140 out of the 294 parliamentary seats contested in the elections, which foreign monitoring teams termed the first fair polls in the country in 20 years.

The Awami League won 84 seats, followed by the Jatiya Party of former President Hossain Mohammad Ershad with 35 and the Muslim fundamentalist Jamaat-E-Islami with 18.

"From these Stasi archives actions were obviously begun to blackmail politicians and other senior people in West Germany," the newspaper said. It did not elaborate.

In a related matter, the Bonn newspaper Die Welt reported in its weekend edition that the Stasi paid a West German politician 50,000 marks (\$33,000) in 1972 for a parliamentary vote that ultimately helped keep then-Chancellor Willy Brandt in power.

The Berliner Morgenpost also said parts of the diaries kept by Nazi propaganda chief Joseph Goebbels after 1941 were discovered in the old East German archives. Goebbels' diaries from 1933 to 1941 have been public for some time. Other historic documents were also in the archives, the newspaper said.

Deaths of candidates forced the delay of polls in two constituencies, while new polls were ordered in four after complaints of irregularities.

The BNP is 11 seats short of an absolute majority in the 300-member parliament but hopes for support from smaller parties.

last month's Lithuanian vote before it occurred and has criticised the Latvian and Estonian polls.

The question on the Latvian ballot was: "Do you support the democratic and independent statehood of the Republic of Latvia?"

Officials had said the votes of ethnic Russians in the two republics would be important to give weight to Sunday's referendums.

Kukk said Gorbachev tried to persuade the West that only a small percentage of Estonians wanted independence. "Now the world press is here to get the opposite story."

More than 112 independent observers, representing 14 foreign countries as well as Soviet republics, watched the balloting and no violations were reported.

The pro-Kremlin opposition group called "Ravnopravie" or Equal Rights, however, circulated a statement in Riga late Sunday citing violations in polling procedures, according to the Soviet State News Agency (TASS).

In Latvia, pro-Kremlin forces distributed leaflets and posters that warned that a "yes" vote would lead to a "totalitarian" regime and turn non-ethnic Latvians into second-class citizens. But they failed to dissuade many Russians from supporting the separatist cause.

Gorbachev has scheduled a nationwide referendum for March 17 on holding together the 15 Soviet republics. Leaders of the Baltics, as well as of the republics of Armenia, Georgia and Moldavia, have said they won't participate.

Although Gorbachev has demanded the Baltic republics hold referendums before they may become independent, he fulfilled

25 killed in U.S. plane crash

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colorado (AP) — The United States Olympic Committee said two committee employees and a coach with the U.S. Cycling Federation were aboard a United jetliner that crashed Sunday.

There were no known survivors.

The plane with 25 people aboard crashed in flames as it approached the Colorado Springs Airport on a flight from Denver.

Mike Moran, a spokesman for the U.S. Olympic Committee, said that among those on board the plane were Dr. Peter J. Van Handel, 45, a senior sports physiologist; Dr. Andrzej J. Komor, 39, a sports biochemist; and Dan Birkholz, a cycling development coach and coordinator. Moran said all worked for the committee and lived in Colorado Springs.

United Flight 585 en route from Denver crashed at 9:55 a.m. (1655 GMT) four to five miles (seven or eight kilometres) south of the airport, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in Washington said. There were 20 passengers on board and a crew of five.

The FAA and the airline both said all aboard apparently were killed. The Boeing 737-200 narrowly missed houses and apartment buildings. At least one person on the ground was injured.

"All obviously are presumed dead," said Sgt. Dean Kelsay, of the El Paso County Sheriff's Office. However, he said he would not confirm that until search efforts had been exhausted.

Meyer said there was no communication from the pilot to the airport control tower indicating any problem before the crash.

A witness, army command Sgt. Maj. Leo Martinez, said that the plane banked sharply, veered and then crashed virtually nose first.

"I watched and it went vertically into the ground," he said.

"There was a huge fireball, black smoke and orange flame."

He said there was "nothing — just debris, very small debris. You can see tires burning. I don't think there's a part larger than a suitcase. You can't see any wings or anything."

The plane crashed in a park surrounded by houses and apartment buildings.

Ed Arango, administrator at Memorial Hospital, said a 12-year-old girl who was in the doorway of her house suffered a head injury when she was blown backward by the force of the crash. She was in good condition, he said.

The weather was clear but there were high, gusty winds in the area at the time of the crash, the officials said.

At least 14,000 people have been killed since 1983 when Tamil rebels began a separatist campaign to establish an independent state for their ethnic community.

Tamils represent 18 per cent of Sri Lanka's 16 million people. They accuse the Sinhalese majority of discriminating against them in jobs and education. Sinhalese, which make up 75 per cent of the population, control the government and military.

The Jaffna district is virtually entirely Tamil, but the Batticaloa and Trincomalee regions about 200 kilometres east and northeast of Colombo are equally divided among Sinhalese, Tamils and Muslims.

Tamil guerrillas have frequently attacked Sinhalese and Muslims, who comprise 7 per cent of the national population.

Witnesses said the pilot appeared to take heroic actions in order to miss houses. The wreckage of the plane was strewn across a street in this Chicago suburb.

A convoy of police vehicles moved out of the town Sunday evening in a partial withdrawal after the clashes in which shots were fired but no one was reported killed.

The police withdrawal was in response to an order by the Yugoslav state presidency for all police and army to move out of Pakrac by midnight.

A local police official said some police would remain to keep

24 killed as rival blacks clash in Soweto township

JOHANNESBURG (R) — At least 24 people were killed in Soweto township at the weekend in South Africa's worst factional violence this year, straining a fragile truce between rival black political movements.

Police Colonel Tienie Halgrym said Monday 24 people were killed and 12 injured Sunday at a hostel for migrant workers in the Meadowlands district of Soweto, near Johannesburg.

He said unidentified men with knives and guns attacked Xhosa residents of the hostel Sunday, apparently in revenge for the murder of a Zulu inmate Friday evening.

"It was a counter-reaction," Halgrym told Reuters. He said police suspected some Zulu hostel dwellers were responsible for Sunday's killings but no arrests had yet been made.

A Visnews television news agency crew reported bodies strewn around the hostel's rooms and in surrounding fields.

The violence is the latest blow to a fragile truce between the African National Congress (ANC), South Africa's main anti-apartheid movement, and the rival Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP).

The truce is aimed at ending the worst urban violence for years.

More than 1,100 people were killed in a six-month war in Johannesburg's townships last year between Zulu hostel dwellers loyal to the IFP and township